



**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
FINAL DETERMINATION OF  
NON-SIGNIFICANCE**  
January 31, 2000

State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

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Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE**

**Name of Proposal:** MICHEL CHANNEL REALIGNMENT PROJECT

**Description of Proposal:** The project proposes to construct 1,500 feet of new channel, on Lower Crab Creek, involving approximately 7,000 cubic yards of excavation, install one railroad flat car decked bridge, two rock barbs, a cattle stream crossing with slats as bracing into the creek, install a culvert through the existing dike, construct four rock drops, fill in 3,200 feet of existing lower crab creek channel for center pivot wheel crossings (to facilitate farming) using dredged material used in excavating new channel. The project includes other minor channel improvements to 4,000 feet of channel.

The purpose of the project is to correct erosion and instability conditions on portions of Lower Crab Creek that run through the applicant's property.

**The proponent shall incorporate the following mitigation measures into the project:**

1. Two alternatives are listed as part of the project. Which ever alternative is chosen must not degrade fish habitat.
2. The new channel must incorporate fish habitat components equivalent to, or greater than, the old channel.
3. The channel needs to be designed with sloped banks to encourage channel stability during establishment of wetland/riparian vegetation.
4. Contingency plans need to be in place to implement corrective actions if erosion occurs during high flows to prevent banks from collapsing and sediments washing downstream.
5. Flows need to be directed into a primary channel that would maintain necessary depths more suitable for fish.
6. A streambank revegetation plan needs to be discussed with WDFW's Area Habitat Biologist or designee.
7. The cattle crossing needs to be constructed to maintain streambank walls and vegetation, to prevent additional bank erosion.
8. A plan must be developed to safely transport fish that may be stranded during dewatering of the old channel to free flowing waters.

**Proponent:** Phil Michel, 7978 Wahluke Slope Road, SW, Mattawa, Washington 99379

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** Lower Crab Creek, Southeast of Highway 26, Northeast of Corfu, Washington, Grant County; Sections 01, 02, and 03, Township 15 North, Range 27 East; and Lower Crab Creek, near Highway 26, Adams County; W ½ of Section 06, Township 15 North, Range 28 East WM

**Lead Agency:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of the completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of issue below. Comments must be submitted by: **January 28, 1999**

**Responsible Official:** Peter Birch

**Position/Title:** Environmental Review and Technical Assistance Division Manager

**Address:** 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

**Please contact:** Cynthia R. Pratt **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or  
**e-mail:** prattcrp@dfw.wa.gov if you have questions about this determination.

**DATE OF ISSUE:** January 14, 1999 **SIGNATURE:**  for Peter Birch

SEPA Log Number: 99095HO